MR. PARKMAN'S NEW VOLUME. THE DISCOVERY OF THE GREAT WEST. By FRANCIS PARKMAN. 12mo, pp. 425. Little, Brown & Co. The second of Mr. Parkman's admirable series of works on the early history of France and England in North America described the efforts of the Jesuit missionaries to found among the Indian tribes of Canada and the region of the great lakes, a powerful Christian confederacy, which should be at once an impregnable stronghold of of faith, and a mainstay of French ascendency on the North American continent. It was a grand idea, and the attempt to carry it out was illustrated by deeds of heroism and self-sacrifice, which have kindled the admiration of two centuries, and reflect upon the Jesuit pioneers a glory such as belongs to the martyrs of the early church. The scheme was defeated by an irruption of the Iroquois, who slaughtered the converts, uprooted the communities and scattered them in bands of fugitives far and wide through the wilderness. It was with this catastrophe that Mr. Parkman's history of "The Jesuits in North America " come to an end. He resumes his pen with the story of enterprises only a few years later in time, but far different in character. Canada is now no longer a mission but a colony. The new explorers are no longer saints and martyrs but fur-traders, adventurers, and geographical discoverers. Even the missioners who trump by their side through the trackless forests are different from the former race, and the jealousy of Recollets and Jecuits is used by avaricious governors and interdants for the furtherance of their own selfish schemes. The enterprises with which the historian new has to deal were directed principally toward the establishment of trading-posts. They resulted in the exploration of the valleys of the Mississippi and the great lakes-a chapter of American

history which has hitherto been very imperfectly

understood. Mr. Jared Sparks-devotes to the Mis-

missippi pioneers a small portion of his excellent but

too brist series of American Biographies. Mr. John

G. Shea, in his work on "The Discovery and Ex-

but he was rather a collector of the materials of his

A century had passed since De Soto was buried in the waters of the Lower Mississippi, and the discovery of the great river was well-nigh forgotten. Its upper course had never been reached by white men, although the French traders and Jesuits on the shores of the lakes heard wonderful stories from time to time of a mighty estream in the interior which flowed on to the sea with dangerous whirlpools and between banks peopled by savage and implacable Aribes. They apparently did not suspect it to be idensical with the river of he Seto-if indeed they knew of the Spaniard's discovery-and many believed that It would lead them to the Vermilion Sea (Gulf of California, and so open the long sought route to the Indies. It was with somes uch expectation as this that La Salle began his remarkable exptorations in 1009. Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, was born of good family at Rouen, and in his youth joined the order of Jesuits, but left them without taking orders, and emigrated to Canada. There he settled at La Chine, above Montreal, and began to study Indian languages, probably with a view to the career by which he afterward become distinguished. From the Senecas who visited his settlement he heard of the river Obio which rose in their country and reached the sea, they assured him, at a distance of eight or nine months' journey. . This he believed must give him a western passage to China. He obtained the sanction of the Governor and intendant for a voyage of discovery, sold his land and improvements, and with the proceeds fitted out four canoes and a party of 14 hired men. Just at this time the Sulpitians of Montreal were organizing amissionary expedition to the North-West, and it was arranged that the two parties should be combined. Numbering in all 24 men, with seven canoes, they ascended the rapids of the St. Lawrence, coasted along Lake Ontario, landed at the Seneca village near the banks of the Genesee, where they tried in vain to obtain a guide, and then proceeded to the Iroquois village of Ganastogué at the head of the Lake. Here the missionaries and the route to the Indies, ignorant of Marquette's discovadventurers separated-the former going to the ery, though it had been made five years before. The Ohio, under the guidance of a Shawnee prisoner whom the Iroqueis had given him. The mission was a failure, and the priests soon returned to Montreal. Of La Salle's life during the next two years the

had to turn back. The story that he kept on as far as the confinence of the Ohio with the Mississippi is not probable; neither is the report that in the foldowing year (1671) he reached the Father of Waters by descending the Illinois. Certainly he never put forward any such claims himself, though he did profess to have reached the rapids of the Ohio, and it is quite likely that he a so reached the Illinois.

In the mean time the Jestits bad carried their missionary settlements as far as Bidhillimackinac and the head of Green Bay, and there had gathered from the somber history of La Salle's adventures, Honneie, of a great river (the Illinois) flowing toward the sea. The same hope which inspired the Ronen adventurer, of reaching the Indian Ocean, took possession also of Father Jacques Marquette, who had been for two years laboring among the Indians in the country near Sault Ste. Marie. Marquete was in the country near Sault Ste. mane. altracte was now 35 years of age. "The traits of his character are unmistakable. He was of the brotherhood of the early Canadian missionaries, and the true counter-part of Gameer or Josues. He was a devont votary of the Virgin Mary; who, imaged to his mind in shapes of the most transcendent loveliness with which the penell of human genius has ever informed the canvas, was to him the object of an adpration not unmingled with a sentiment of chivalrons devotion. The longings of a sensitive heart, divorced from earth, sought selace in the skies. A subtile element of romance was blended with the fervor of his worship, and hung like an illumined gloud over the harsh and hard realities of his daily lot. Kindled by the smile of his celestial mistress, his gentle and noble nature knew no fear. For her he burned to dare and to suffer, discover new lands and conquer new realms to her sway." Very different was the character of his rival in renown. La Salle belonged not to the age of the knight-errant and the saint, but to the modern world of practical study and practical action. He was a man of comprehensive and far-reaching ambition, of iron will, of dogged tenacity of purpose, insensible to danger, hardship, and disappointment, of strict moral life and incorruptible honesty, a harsh man, one would say, proud, reserved, making many enemies by his haughty manner, and conciliating warm friends by the sterling Roman virtues that illustrated his poble character. Except that personal magnetism which enables a man to control unruly followers, he lacked none of the qualities of a great explorer; ret, strange to say, the great secret of American geo-

A third illustrious name now appears upon the record. It is that of Louis Joliet, a native of Quebec, and like La Salle an ex-novice of the Jesuits. Both had left the Society on good terms with the Fathers, and bearing excellent characters. Joliet was an honest. educated, and enterprising merchant, with a taste for adventure and a hardy constitution, but no special elevation of mind; an excellent person on the whole to assist in the new enterprise which was conceived at Quebec while La Salle was in search of the Illinois. He was one of the party which under and floated down it to the Illinois. Near Danmont de St. Lusson had been sent to Lake Superior by the Intendant Talon in 1670, and had taken formal possession of the interior in the name of the Illinois, who received them with friendship. French king. Talon now determined to explore the fed them with all the delicacies of their larder, and new possession, and Joliet was sent to Michillimack- rubbed their feet with bear's grease. In the night. inac in 1672, with orders to join Marquette and go | however, came

graphy was to be yielded not to the sturdy traveler

but to the engaptured priest.

with him in search of the Mississ ppi. They set La Salle's enemies, and held a secret meeting with out on the 17th of May, 1673, with five the head men of the Illinois. The next day the men, two birch canoes, and a supply of sr aoked meat and Indian corn; skirted the Northern , hore of Lake Michigan, landing, at evening, to bui' at their campfire at the edge of the forest and draw up their canoes on the strand; visited, now and the m, an Indian vil- down the river, and gave it the significant name of lage, where Marquette instructed the savages in the River until, on the 7th of June , they reached an Indian town, where they procur ed a guide. A portage to Frontenac and obtain fresh supplies. So of a mile and a half brought them to the Wisconsin, and committing their can oes to the current they entered, on the 17th, the great river of their search. For one month they florated cantiously toward the | Tonty with two or three honest men and thirteen Gulf, sometimes landing at night, sometimes anchoring for greater security in mid-stream, and meeting no more serious prolestation from the Indians than a fright new and then, or a feast of roast dog and | melted the snew on the prairies, and they sometimes bear's grease. 'They passed the mouth of the Arkangas, and being satisfied that the Mississippi entered neither the Vermilion Sea nor the Sea of Virginia (Atlantic), but the Gulf of Mexico, and learning also that the people further South were dangerously hostile, they turned on the 17th of July, and laboriously paddled homeward. Instead of following the Wisconsin, they went up the Illinois River, carried their canoes across the portage to the lake, and reached Green Bay after an absence of four months and a voyage of more than 2,500 miles. Joliet went back to Quebec to report results. Marquette remained at the Green Bay Mission, prostrate with dysentery which had attacked him on the journey. He never recovered from it; but in the Autumn of 1674 he was so far relieved that he set out for the chief town of the Illinois, to found a mission at Kaskaskia on the Illinois River. Soon after Easter, conscious that he had not much longer to live, he started to return with two companions. A crowd of Indians escorted him to the Lake, where the canoe was launched and the little party coasted along the eastern shore toward Michillimackinae. They had accomplished about two-thirds of the distance when on the 19th of May the priest requested his companions to land, for he felt that his hour was near.

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They compiled, built a shed of bark on a rising ground near the bank, and carried thither the dying Jesuit. With perfect cheerfulness and composure he gave directions for his buried, asked their forgiveness for the trouble he had caused them, administered to them the sacrament of penitence, and thanked God that he was permitted to die in the wilderness, a missionary of the faith and a member of the Jesuit brotherhood. At night, seeing that they were fatigued, he told them to take rest—saying that he would call them when he feit his time approaching. Two or three hours after, they heard a feeble voice, and, hastening to his side, found him at the point of death. He expired calmly, murmuring the names of Jesus and Mary, with his eyes fixed on the crueifix which one of his followers held before him. They dug a grave beside the hut, and here they buried him according to the directions which he had given them; then reëmbarking, they made their way to Michilimackinac, to bear the tadings to the priests at the mission of St. Ignace.

As this gentle character passes away, La Salle beploration of the Missiesippi," brought to light several important parratives by the early explorers ; tery than a historical writer. Mr. Parkman has supplemented the labors of Sparks and Shea by careful researches among original documents, and has told for the first time with fallness of knewledge and rare grace of atyle the remantic story of the dis-

As this gentle character passes away, La Salle becomes once more the central figure in the narrative. While Marquette's canoe was gliding down the Mississippi La Salle was maturing with the Governor, Frontenac, a scheme for intercepting the fur-trade before it got to Montreal by establishing a fortified trading post on Lake Ontario, near the present site of Kingston. To the Governor the scheme was a mere commercial speculation; but La Salle looked further, and designed it as a base for the grand operations by which he expected to anticipate the English and Spaniards in developing the resources of the great West. His first purpose, as we have seen, was to seek a route to the Indies; but when he became convinced that the great river flowed to the Mexican Gulf he designed to establish a fortified post at its mouth, and so win for France the control of the whole valley. When Fort Frontenac, as the establishment on Lake Ontario was called, was finished, he went to France and obtained from the King a grant of the Fort in seignory, with a patent of nobility. It was easy enough now to raise money for a new expedition, and rich merchants of the colony were glad to become his partners. Feudal lord of the forests around him, commander of a garrison raised and paid by himself, founder of the mission, patron of the Church, he reigned the autocrat his lonely little empire. On a second visit to France he obtained permission to prosecute his discoveries at his own expense, on condition of completing them in five years, to build and hold forts in the new countries, and to monopolize the trade in buffalo skins. It is not clear from Mr. Parkman's narrative how far La Salle's plans extended when he put his expedition in motion in 1678. He seems at first to have turned his eyes toward a chief object of his enterprise. Two of the companions who joined him at Fort Frontenac were destined to conspicuous places in American history. One of these was Henri de Tonty, an Italian officer of honrecord is obscure and not entirely trustworthy. It is complete the same of the constitution of the constit and he were a hand of iron, generally covered with a glove. He sometimes used it to effective purpose in breaking the heads or knocking out the teeth of disorderly Indians, and the savages, not understanding the secret of his hard hitting, regarded him as a medicine man of the first order. The other recruit of whom we speak was the Recollect Louis Hennenin, a man of restless adventure, who lived traveling better than preaching, did no particular credit to the frock and cowl, and now bears the reputation of one of the vainest liars on record. In pin appears like the comic player in a tragedy, intro-duced now and then to relieve the pervading gloom and assuage our harrassed feelings by a moment's

luxury of laughter. Still he was a brave man and a useful ally, though for neither La Salle nor Tonty did he cherish a cordial liking.

The first business of La Salle after assembling his band was to establish another outpost further in the wilderness by building a fort at the mouth of the Niagara River, and then launching a vessel above the Falls. Both labors were completed after great ifficulties and daugers, and on the 7th of August, 1679, the voyagers, thirty-four in all, went aboard their little craft, the Griffin, sang the Te Denm fired their cannon, and cast off into Lake Erie, where no sail had ever been seen before. They had a prosperous voyage into Lake Huren; were then nearly lost in a storm; and at last anchored with a salvo of artillery off the Jesuit mission of Michillimackinac to the no small amazement of the Indians. Here they were received in state, but without much good will. The Jesuits looked with no favor upon La Salle's scheme. Mr. Parkman says that they were his rivals in the fur trade; but however that may be it is easy to understand why they should regard with disfavor the intrusion of a class of white adventurers not famous for good morals into the region where they were trying to build up a Christian empire under a priestly government. Besides this, La Salle, as a partner with Frontenac in a speculation which threatened the ruin of Montreal merchants, was naturally exposed to bitter enmities, and more than once it is said that his life was attempted by poison. From the outset to the end of his career he was harrassed by the secret machinations of enemies who corrupted and enticed away his men, and inspired the Indians with hostile feelings. His creditors moreover at Montreal had seized his property and threatened to ruin his enterprise by cutting off his supplies. To satisfy them he loaded the Griffin with fors and sent her back to the Falls in charge of the pilot, with orders to return as soon as the cargo was landed. The Griffin never returned, nor is it known what became of her. She may have foundered; but La Salle always believed that the crew scuttled her and made off with the cargo. In the mean time, with the rest of his men, he pursued the journey in canoes, skirted the southern shore of Lake Michigan, built a fort at the mouth of the St. Joseph, and ascending that stream to its head waters, marched five miles to the sources of the Kaukakee, the present site of Peoria they landed and spent a night or two in a camp of the

of the adventurers took the first opportunity of deserting, while most of the rost lost heart. To meet this new danger, La Salle built a fort half a league Crèvecœur, or Fort Heart-break. He had now lost Christian faith, and sailed up freen Bay and Fox all hope of the return of the Griffin, and there was nothing for him to do but go back on foot setting his men to work on the hull of a new vessel, he started homeward on the 2d of March, 1680, with four Frenchmen and a Mobegan Indian, leaving knaves to hold Fort Crèvecœur during his absence. The journey was terrible. There was still too much ice for the canoes, while the warm mid-day sun had to wade through mud and water knee deep. There was danger, too from hostile Indians, whom they only held at bay by incessant vigilance; there was danger of starvation, for game was scarce; and all the men, at time or another, fell ill from exposure and fatigue. When they reached Niagara La Salle alone was fit to continue the journey. With three fresh men he pushed forward, and on the 6th of Mayarrived at Fort Frontenac only to find that a ship from France laden with his goods had been wrecked at the mouth of the St. Lawrence; that several of his canoes with rich cargoes of furs were lost; that his agents had plundered him, and his creditors had seized the remnants of his property. He went to Montreal, and succeeded in raising more supplies, when news came from Tonty that the men on the Illinois had destroyed the fort, plundered the magazine, thrown into the river whatever they could not carry away, and deserted almost in a body. They had afterward destroyed the fort at the mouth of the St. Joseph, and twelve of them were now on their way to Frontenac to kill La Salle. The of La Salle, who was still at the camp, six miles disintrepid voyager went out to meet them with nine men in canoes, killed two and captured several others, and on the 10th of August, with a new band of twenty-five, set forth to relieve Tonty and begin all his work afresh. It was November when they reached the Illinois. A scene of desolation met them at which their cheeks grew white and the blood froze in their veins. The Iroquois had ravaged the country, and on the site of the Illinois towns nothing was to be seen but charred ruins, human skulls, half burned bodies, and rifled graves over which the wolves and the buzzards were feasting. The fort was demolished. No trace could be found of Tonty and his three or four faithful adherents, nor was there any indication in the track of the conquerors that white prisoners had been carried off. La Salle descended as far as the Mississippiwhich he then saw for the first time-and convinced that Tonty had not gone that way; returned sadly to the mouth of the St. Joseph, where a detachment of his men had meanwhile restored the fort. Tonty, in fact, after escaping with great difficulty from the Iroquois, had made his way, accompanied by three hired men and the Recollet friar Membré to Green Bay. Father Ribourde had also been of his party but the good old man impredently left his companions for an hour's meditation in the woods, and was wantonly murdered by some prowling Kickapoos.

We have lost sight for awhile of the gay friar Hennepin, but his reverence had not been idle. La Salle had commissioned him, before leaving Fort Crèvecœur, to explore the Upper Mississippi above the mouth of the Illinois, and very unwillingly the Recollect had gone upon the voyage. "Anybody but me," he writes in his narrative, "would have been very much frightened." There were two men with him, Michel Akau and a Picard named Du Gay. Akan was really the commander of the party, but Hennepin is its historian, and has promoted himself to the first place. They had a peaceful voyage for about forty days; when they were taken prisoners by a Sioux war-party, and for a time it was almost an even chance whether they should be adopted into the tribe or roasted on the spot. Adoption prevailed. In the company of their savage and not always hospitable entertainers they journeyed as far as the Falls of St. Anthony, and some distance above, and at last fell in with the famous explorer, Daniel du Libut, a cousin of Tonty, and re-turned with him to the French settlements. Hennepin figures no more in American history. He published a parrative of his explorations when he got back to Europe, any little lies in which were entirely eclipsed by a second work, given to the world after La Salle's death. In this he pretended to divulge facts which fear of La Salle had hitherto induced him to conceal. He declared that he had not only explored the Upper Mississippi, but, first of civilized men, had descended it to the sea. He stole a description of the river from a suppressed narrative by Father Membré, who accompanied La Salle to the Gulf afterward. Mr. Shed has shown the extent of his plagfarisms and the impossibility of reconciling the dates and distances in his fertitions johinal so clearly that there can be no question about the impossibility. posture.

The disastrons failure of all La Salle's expeditions so far had only nerved the unconquerable explorer to fresh efforts and enlarged the scope of his designs. The Iroquois had nearly proved his rain; he resolved to build his fortunes upon the fear with which they filled the other tribes. His plan was to collect a colony of Indians and French in the Mississippi Valley, strong enough to hold the Iroquois at defiance, find the mouth of the great river, and to build at its entrance a fort which would enable him to control the trade of the region and give him ready communication with France. The tribes rallied joyfully finder his Protection, so that he soon collected around Fort St. Louis or the Illinois about 20,000 souls, from the valleys of the Mississippi and Ohio, from New-York, and even from Rhode Island. He completed the descent of the Mississippi with a little flotilla of canoes, landing frequently on the way to make friends with the Indians, and on the 9th of April, 1682, issued into the Gulf of Mexico, and took possession of the country in the name of the King of France while his men shouted Vice le Roi and the friars chanted Te Deum and Domine salvum fac Regens. In the interval his affairs at Montreal and Fort Frontenac were in a worse state than ever before. Frontenac was gone, and the new Governor, hostile to Frontenac's friends, had represented matters so at court that the king wrote : "I am convinced, like you, that the discovery of the Sieur de la Salle is very useless, and that such enterprises ought to be prevented in future, as they tend only to debauch the inhabitants by the hope of gain, and to diminish the revenue from beaver skins." La Salle sailed at once for France, told his own story, secured a promise of redress, and, what was more to the purpose, obtained four ships well laden, to carry out a colony and an armed force to the Mississippi. Still, he was not at the end of his misfortunes. The naval captain in command of the httle fleet was obstinate, quarrelsome, and in all probability treacherous. Through his mismanagement the storeship fell into the hands of the Spaniards, another vessel was wrecked, and the colonists were landed not on the Mississippi, but at Matagorda Bay, in the midst of a hostile population of Indians, Of the two remaining ships, one, a small frigate, had been given them by the king; the other returned to France and left them to their fate. They were not long in discovering the treachery of the French captain, but there was no remedy. A settlement was formed on the Layaca, and the one hundred and eighty odd exiles (including a number of girls who had come out in search of matrimony), settled themselves as well as they could to a life on the burning Texas pampas. They died so rapidly that it soon became evident no colony could exist there. Still the leaders did what they could to keep up the drooping spirit of the men. They devised work for every day, and had games, dances, and songs, to wile away the evenings. Once, the monotony of their life was broken by a wedding, and there was some excitement over the loves of another couple, but as one of the pair was only a poor girl, and the other a broken- different modes by which, without the aid of man, down, dissolute marquis, the match was sternly for- i they are transported from one country to another bidden by the commander, and the lovers were kept apart. Even in the jaws of death the convenances of

"secontin chief, an emissary of | neither shirt nor steelings. At Christmas they kad | sidereal universe is rather briefly treated, and the

midnight mass amid all the glory of tapers and frankincense and silken vestments, and on Twelfth manner of the savages was greatly changed, and six Night they met in the common hall and cried, after the jovial old custom, "The king drinks!" though their cups contained nothing but cold water.

Two or three times La Salle went away to look for the Mississippi-little thinking it was 500 miles distant-and as often be returned half dead. The frigate was wrecked. Out of the eriginal company, only 45 remained, when La Salle took the desperate resolve of ascending the Mississippi-after he had found it-to his old establishments on the Illinois, and thence making his way to Canada, to send succor to his followers. From the first attempt he returned, sick of a fever, out of ammunition, and deserted by his men. In January, 1687, he started again. There were only forty of the colony left now, including women and children. La Salle took half. Among them were his brother, the Abbé Cavelier, his two nephews, Moranget and the younger Cavelier, Friar Anastase Douay, a ruffian named l'Archevêque, a German buccaneer, commonly known as English Jem, a surgeon Liotot, and one Duhaut, a man of property, who had invested money in the expedition. They journeyed without any startling adventures for five or six weeks, meeting many Indians, but not molested by them. The danger La Saile had most to dread was from the desperadoes of his own party. By the 15th of March they reached the Trinity River and encamped for a hunting excursion. Duhaut, Liotot, l'Archevêque, English Jem, the buccaneer, and a few others had a violent quarrel with La Salle's nephew Moranget. They had gone away from the camp after buffalo, and Duhaut and his fellow rogues determined to seize this opportunity for wreaking a long-cherished animosity. In the dead of night the conspirators killed Moranget, Nika, a faithful Indian follower of La Salle's, and Saget, the commander's servant. The flood-gates of murder were now open, and vengeance and safety alike demanded the death tant. The last scene shall be told in Mr. Parkman's own words:

own words:

It was the 19th of March, and Moranget had been two days absent. La Salle began to show a great anxiety. Some bodings of the trath seem to have visited him; for he was heard to ask several of his men if Duhaut, Liotot, and Hiens had not of late shown signs of discontent. Unable longer to endure his suspense, he left the camp he charge of Joutel, with a caution to stand well on his guard; and set out in search of his nephew, with the friar, Anastase Douay, and two Indians. "All the way," writes the friar, "he spoke to me of nothing but matters of piety, grace, and predestination; calarging on the debt he owed to God, who had saved him from so many perils during more than twenty years of travel in America. Suddenly," Douay continues, "I saw him overwhelmed with a profound sadness, for which he himself could not account. He was so much moved that I scarcely know him." He soon recovered his usual calmness; and they walked on till they approached the camp of Dohaut, which was, however, on the farther side of a small river. Looking about him with the eye of a woodsman, La Salle saw two eagles, or, more probably, turkey-buzzards, circling in the air nearly over him, as if attracted by carcasses of beasls or men. He fired both his pistols, as a summons to any of his followers who might be within hearing. The shots reached the cars of the conspirators. Rightly conjecturing by whom they were fired, several of them, led by Dehaut, crossed the river at a little distanced above, where trees, or other intervening objects, hid them from sight. Duhaut and the surgeon cronched like Indians in the long, dry reced-like grass of the last Summer's growth, while l'Archevêque stood in sight near the bank. La Salle, continuing to advance, soon saw him; and, calling to him, demanded where was Moranget. The man, without lifting his hat, or any show of respect, repligd in an agitated and menaced him. He rejoined with increased insolence, drawing back, as he spoke, toward the ambuscade, while the incensed commander advanced to It was the 19th of March, and Moranget had been two

It is some satisfaction to know that all the con spirators in this awful crime perished miserably, Duhaut and Liotot were killed soon afterward by English Jem, and the others met their deserts in various ways. Those who were with La Salle, including Joutel the second in command, Father Donay, and Cavelier, pursued their course toward the Mississippi, reaching it by the way of the Arkansas. They fell in with the faithful Tonty, who had been exploring the shores of the Gulfin search of his lost leader: but they had the incredible meanmess to conceal La Salle's death for fear of losing the advantages which might accrue to them as his representatives, and, after they had enjoyed Tonty's hospitality until the end of the next Winter, they drew upon him in La Salle's name for about four thousand livres worth of furs, went to Quebec, and thence sailed for France. It was not until they reached home that the told what had happened.

Tonty in the meantime heard the truth from other sources, and made an attempt to rescue the remnant of the colony in Texas. He was unable to reach them, for, as so often happened in these early them, for as so often happened in these early joyanes through the wilderness, his men refused to proceed and he had no means of compelling their obedience. The Spaniards also had been looking for the colony. The capture of La Salle's store-ship had put them on the watch, and revealed the Frenchman's intention to use his Mississippi establishment as a basis of operations, by means of French and Indian warriors, against the Spanish power in Mexico. They found the fort at last in 1689. No living creature remained, and the place was in ruins. Small-pox had carried off many; the Indians had killed or captured all the rest. The captives-five in number -were afterward given up to the Spaniards, and what anally became of them we are not fully told.

We welcome the announcement that Mr. Parkman is continuing his researches in the field which he has made so peculiarly his own, and in the next volume purposes to describe the further efforts of France to establish a permanent power on this continent, and the stormy career of Count Frontenac. The task of celebrating the poetry and heroism of the first pioneers of America could not be committed to better hands, and we trust that Mr. Parkman will long con-

THE UNIVERSE. THE UNIVERSE: Or, THE INFINITELY GREAT AND THE INFINITELY LITTLE. By F. A. POUCHER, M. D. Trans-lated from the French. Royal Svo. pp. 791. Charles Saribury & Co.

The author of this beautiful work has written copiously on the natural sciences, and distinguished himself especially by his researches into the phenomena of spontaneous generation. He is also director of the Museum of Natural History at Ronen. A book from one whose position as a scientific authority is so well assured cannot be regarded as a mere compilation for the amusement of an idle hour or a book-maker's commentary upon the labors of the draftsman and engraver. The slightly apologetic tone of M. Pouchet's preface seems to us therefore misplaced. He well observes that " whoever aspires to the title of a philosopher has, in the present day, a double mission to perform-to discover and to popularize." It is a task well worthy the most accomplished savant to arrange in attractive form for elementary study the fruit of years of patient investigation, for no one but a thorough savant can do that well. "The Universe" is not a scientific treatise, but a readable account of the marvels of nature, drawn from all parts of creation, the depths of the earth and the hights of the sky, the life of animals and plants, and the curiosities of geography. It is not arranged on a strictly formal plan, but the subjects follow one another in a suggested order which answers perfectly well for the ordinary reader. From the consideration of the curious infusoria and other microscopic animalcules, M. Ponchet passes on successively to the "Architects of the Sea," including corals, sponges, &c.; the wonders of "Insect Organization," the "Architecture of Birds," and the "Migrations of Animals," In the section devoted to the Vegetable Kingdon he has an exceedingly interesting book on "The Physiology of Plants," including chapters on the "Sleep of Plants," "Vegetable Sensibility," and the "Nuptials of Plants." Another book describes the "Migrations of Plants," or the The Geological section embraces a popular account of the formation of the globe and of extinct animals rank must be respected, and a marquis was a mar- and plants, and chapters on glaciers, caverns, steppes quis though he went tattered and hungry, and had and deserts, and volcanoes and earthquakes. The

whole closes with an examination of certain popular superstitions and tales of horrible monsters. The engravings with which this resumé of natural

science is illustrated are among the most beautiful of their kind. They are printed, we believe, from electrotypes of the French originals, and are certainly superior to any wood engraving produced in America, nor would it be easy to surpass them in Great Britain, where the book is printed. There is a perfection of detail in the French workmanship to which our best artists have hardly approached. Of the plain wood-cuts, some of them full-page engravings, there are 343, and M. Pouchet vonches in his preface for their scientific accuracy, especially in the department of botany, the artist, M. Faguet, assistant naturalist at the Sorbonne, being an expert in science as well as with the pencil. Besides these there are four exquisite colored plates, and the whole is set off with sumptuous paper and elegant type. It will prove one of the most popular holiday

SINFUL RECREATIONS. POPPLAR AMUSEMENTS. Br Me Rev. J. T. CRAWS, D. D., of the Newark Conference, with an Introduction by Bisbep R. S. Janes. 12mo, pp. 209. Cinclumati: Hitchcock & Walden. New-York: Carlton & Lanaban.

With all respect for the religious convictions and prejudices of two excellent elergymen, and of the large class of Christians whose sentiments they represent, we cannot help expressing our regret that a mischievous book like this should be given to the world under the auspices of a religious denomination. We call it mischievous because its tons is so intemperate and so many of its statements are untrue, that it will be likely to repel the very class whom it is written to attract, and to drive young men away from the church rather than entice them away from the gambling hell and the rum shop. Of course Mr. Crane believes that he has told nothing but the simple truth. It is difficult, however, for any one to write correctly upon subjects of which he can personally know but little; and the author's convictions upon the subject of certain forms of popular amusement have been too decided to permit him to learn from experience precisely what those amusements are. He objects, as we might suppose, to the theater at all times and under all circumstances. Wallack's is only the ante-chamber of hell. The play-house attracts its patrons from the lowest haunts of vice, " must be on good terms with the grogshop and the brothel," panders exclusively gallery of loose women, "ridicules freligion," and exhibits acute and crafty villalny successful over simple truth and innocence. No manager would dare to present a play which should brand vice as infamous and exalt virtue and honor; if he did his audience "would go out in the midst of the performances, angrily muttering that when they want a sermon they will go to the church for

depths of infamy. . . . The theater will never be re-formed. The truly refined despise it, the wise and the good abhor it." All which, we say with respect, is en tirely false, and proves that Mr. Crane knows little or nothing about the theater. Horse-racing and base-ball are treated with equal severity. Dancing is still worse. Cards, chess, and billiards are all three abou-inable, and novel-fedding is to be allowed very, very sparingly, if it is allowed at all. Still Mr. Crane thinks recreation of some kind is not only permissible but necessary to health. He does not tell us what methods of amusement he does approve; but confesses that he can see no harm in the sort of dancing practiced by the old gentleman who every morning early used to put on a pair of seft slippers, go up into the attle, and then go round and round in a circle on a gentle run, until he felt a pleasant glow all over his body. Mr.

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